

# RHINE CHRISTMAS MARKETS

## BASEL- AMSTERDAM



Experience the deep-rooted holiday traditions of Europe at its most festive time of year. From the iconic canals of Amsterdam to Switzerland's glittery cities, Lucerne and Zurich, get caught up in the magic of the holidays with visits to some of the world's most timeless Christmas Markets. Warm up with a mug of steamy glühwein while at the Cologne Christmas Market located in front of its UNESCO-designated Gothic cathedral. Let the "Capital of Noël," Strasbourg, the oldest and largest Christmas Market in France, captivate you the way it has for so many others for centuries.



### DATES:

**2023 - AmaPrima:** Dec 5\*, 12, 19\* **AmaCerto:** Nov 28\* |  
Dec 5, 12\*, 19 **AmaSiena:** Nov 30 | Dec 7\*, 14, 21\*  
**AmaLucia:** Nov 30\* | Dec 14\*

**2024 - AmaPrima:** Dec 11\* **AmaCerto:** Dec 7\*, 14, 21\*  
**AmaSiena:** Nov 28 | Dec 5\*, 12, 19\* **AmaLucia:** Nov 28\* |  
Dec 5, 12\*

**DURATION:** 8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS

**EMBARK:** Basel (B)

**DISEMBARK:** Amsterdam (A)

\*REVERSE ITINERARY

**SHIPS:** AMA PRIMA, AMA SIENA,  
AMA CERTO, AMA LUCIA

**FROM:** \$2,960\* + Port Charges

*\*After 20% off select 2024 dates*

**COUNTRIES: FRANCE, GERMANY, NETHERLANDS,  
SWITZERLAND**  
**RIVERS: RHINE**

## **ITINERARY**

### **DAY 1- ARRIVE BASEL SWITZERLAND – EMBARK**

NOTE: Itinerary operates as described here, or in reverse direction from Amsterdam to Basel. Embark the ship in Basel. Tonight, meet your fellow passengers on board. (D)

### **DAY 2 - BREISACH, GERMANY**

Visit the enchanting Alsatian town of Riquewihr beautifully dressed in her holiday finery with twinkling decorations and a lively Christmas Market. On your walking tour, admire historical architecture, as well as famous sights, such as the Dolder Gate. Alternatively, you may wish to visit Freiburg, founded in 1120, and home to Freiburg's Münster, a Gothic cathedral constructed of red sandstone, as well as its enchanting Christmas Market. Those wishing a more active excursion will want to cycle through the scenic countryside; or go on an excursion to the Black Forest, a magical land full of cultural traditions, as well as home to elaborate cuckoo clocks, striking half-timber houses, ruined castles and quaint towns. (B,L,D)



### **DAY 3 - STRASBOURG, FRANCE**

Strasbourg is even more alluring during the season of Advent. The Christkindelsmärik dates back to 1570, making it the oldest Christmas Market in France. Enjoy a panoramic bus tour that takes you past the Parc de l'Orangerie, the European Parliament and the Place de

la Republique. Afterwards, walk through the historic town center on the Grande île, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and through the lovely "La Petite France" district, where you will see the Cathédrale de Notre Dame with its famous astronomical clock and then visit the town's famous Christmas Market. You can also choose to explore Strasbourg's different districts by bicycle. During the afternoon, visit Gengenbach Christmas Market where every year the locals countdown to Christmas with a 24-day, larger-than-life Advent calendar. (B,L,D)



### **DAY 4 - LUDWIGSHAFEN– RÜDESHEIM**

you have the choice to explore two of Germany's historically rich cities, along with their festive Christmas Markets. Visit Heidelberg, a city that will capture your heart with its mighty castle and historic university. While here, wander along one of Europe's longest pedestrian shopping streets, the Hauptstrasse, soaking up the Yuletide celebrations at the town's Christmas Markets. Alternatively, you can explore one of Germany's oldest cities, Speyer, known for the largest Romanesque cathedral in Europe—a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You'll also have time to visit its Christmas Market in front of the "Old Mint" (Alten Münze) in the famous Maximilianstrasse, with a view of the romantic imperial cathedral (Kaiserdom). Later in the day, sail to Rudesheim where you can taste local wine or taste one of the town's special delights, Rudesheimer Coffee, ceremoniously made with brandy. (B,L,D)



### **DAY 5 - RÜDESHEIM – RHINE GORGE**

Your exploration of Rüdesheim continues with your choice of excursions. Visit Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum or take a gondola ride to the Niederwalddenkmal Statue, where you can enjoy panoramic views of the river. Afterwards, indulge your taste buds with a sampling of Riesling wines in the vineyards. Alternatively, you can join a guided bike ride through the town and along the Rhine River to Schloss Johannisberg; or hike through the town's beautiful vineyards. During the afternoon, set sail along the scenic Rhine River Gorge with its fabled legends and many castles. (B,L,D)



### **DAY 6 - COLOGNE**

Join a guided tour through the enchanting Old Town. Explore the UNESCO-designated cathedral and then

visit one of Europe's largest and most renowned Christmas Markets located in front of the cathedral. Alternatively, ride a bike along the Rhine and through the historic Stadtgarten; or visit a local tavern to taste Cologne's traditional Kölsch beer and Reibekuchen—potato pancakes served with apple sauce. (B,L,D)



### **DAY 7 - AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS**

Cruise the iconic canals of Amsterdam, considered the "Venice of the North" and admire the historic architecture along the way. Then, taste local specialties at one of Amsterdam's grand cafés. Please note that an alternative tour will depend on docking location. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 8 - DISEMBARKATION - DEPART AMSTERDAM**

Bid Farewell to Amsterdam and prepare for your homeward flight. (B)





<b>2023 DATES –</b>	<b>November 26</b>					<b>December 2-23</b>				
<b>BASE RATE – CAT E</b>	\$3,399					\$3,499				
<b>2024 DATES –</b>	<b>November 28</b>					<b>December 5 – 21</b>				
<b>BASE RATE – CAT E</b>	\$3,599					\$3,699				
<b>CATEGORY UPGRADE</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>CB</b>	<b>C/CA</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>BA</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>AA</b>	<b>AA+</b>	<b>SUITE</b>	
<b>SUPPLEMENT – ADD 23</b>	\$299	\$799	\$1,099	\$1,699	\$1,899	\$2,099	\$2,299	\$2,899	\$3,599	
<b>SUPPLEMENT – ADD 24</b>	\$299	\$899	\$1,299	\$1,899	\$2,099	\$2,299	\$2,499	\$3,099	\$3,799	
Plus Port Charges - \$210 per person 2023 / \$224 per person 2024										

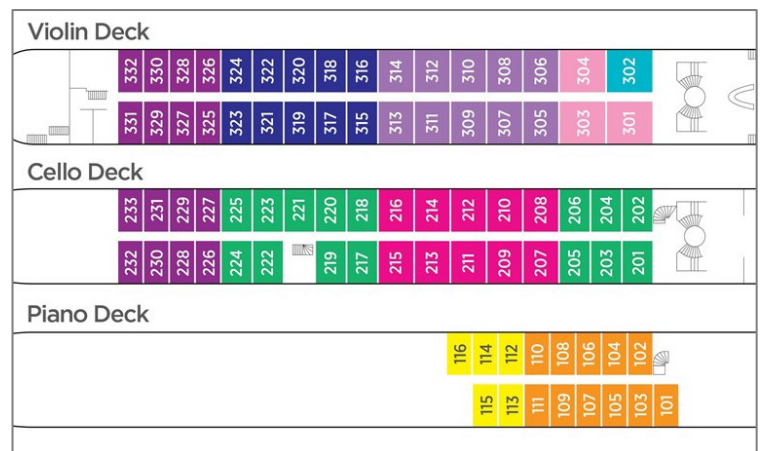
**SAVE 20% OFF**  
**SELECT 2024 DATES -**  
**Dec 12-21**



**Reservations & Information**  
**1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)**

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[www.explorcruises.com](http://www.explorcruises.com)

**AMA PRIMA, AMA CERTO**



**AMA LUCIA, AMA SIENA**

